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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/782,534	02/19/2004	Michael Levernier	ALTU-910	3265
28584 7590 10/31/2007 STALLMAN & POLLOCK LLP 353 SACRAMENTO STREET SUITE 2200 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111			EXAMINER FARAH, AHMED M	
			ART UNIT 3735	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 10/31/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

CT

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/782,534

Applicant(s)

LEVERNIER ET AL.

Examiner

Ahmed M. Farah

Art Unit

3735

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 August 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 41-50 and 61-100 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 61, 63-66, 76, 78, 79, 87 and 88 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 41-50, 62, 67-75, 77, 80-86 and 89-100 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date July 26, 2004
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election without traverse of invention I, species D, in the reply filed on August 13, 2007 is acknowledged.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Claim Objections

Claim 93 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 90. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

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(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 41, 42, 45-49, 62, 67-69, 72, 73, 75, 77, 81, 82, 84, 85, and 89-100 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Eckhouse et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,776,175.

Eckhouse et al. disclose a non-ablative phototherapy laser system and method of use for treating body tissue, the method comprising:

irradiating electromagnetic energy to the body tissue, the electromagnetic energy selected from laser pulses having a fluence of between 100 mJ/cm^2 to 10 J/cm^2 (see col. 5, lines 2-3) and pulse width of between $100 \mu\text{s}$ to 100 ms (see col. 2, lines 32-37); and

heating the target tissue to a temperature of up to 45 degrees Celsius (see col. 1, lines 57-60).

With respect to claims 49, 73, 75, 84, and 85, the treatment light source is selected from a group of light source including an Nd:YAG laser, which provides a near IR light (see col. 1, lines 41-42).

With respect to claims 68, 69, 82 and 99, Eckhouse et al. teach the method of directing treatment radiation having a small spot size on the order of about 5 mm is known in the art (see col. 1, line 46).

As to claims 81, 90, 93 and 96, the selected treatment area has a cross-sectional area of between 0.8 to 500 cm^2 .

As to claim 98, the number of pulses selected for the treatment is between 1 to 100 pulses (see col. 4, lines 20-21).

As to claims 92 and 97, the treatment light pulses are applied to the selected treatment area for a time period of about 5 minutes (see col. 3, line 64 to col. 4, line 3).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 43, 44, 50, 70,, 71, 74, 80, 83 and 86 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eckhouse et al.

As to claims 43, 44, and 80, Eckhouse et al., described above, do not particularly teach the recited laser peak power. However, their laser system would provide a peak power of 10-14 KW as claimed. As to claims 50, 74 and 86, they use an Nd:YAG laser in which the first harmonic generation pulses have a wavelength of 1064 nm. And, as to claims 70, 71 and 83, they teach the frequency of the laser pulses is between 0.1 to 1 Hz. However, their laser system is capable of providing pulse frequencies of between 2-12 Hz as claimed.

Therefore, at the time of the applicant's invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the Nd:YAG laser of Eckhouse et al. in order to provide treatment laser pulses having a wavelength of 1064 nm, peak power of 10-14 KW, and pulse frequency of 2-12 Hz as presently claimed.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See the following references:

1. U.S. Patent No. 7,276,059 to Irwin
2. Pub. No. US 2003/0216795 to Harth et al.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ahmed M. Farah whose telephone number is (571) 272-4765. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon, Tue, Thur and Fri between 9:30 AM 7:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marmor II Charles can be reached on (571) 272-4730. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

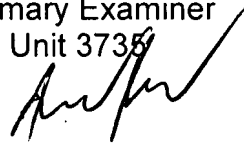
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USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Ahmed M Farah
Primary Examiner
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ahmed M Farah', is written over the printed name and title.

October 27, 2007.